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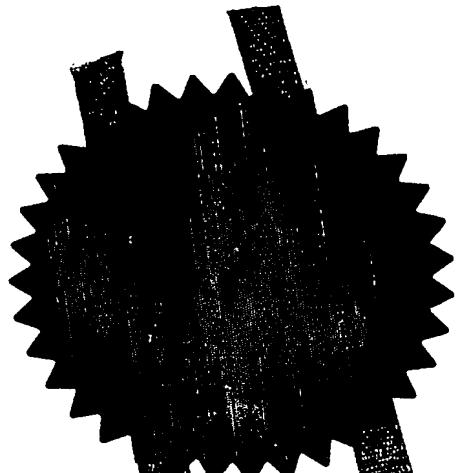
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Signed

Dated 14 July 2004

Pauline Gersley



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01 JUL 03 E819075-2 D01821
P01/7700 0.00-0315300.4

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Request for grant of a patent

(See the notes on the back of this form. You can also get an explanatory leaflet from the Patent Office to help you fill in this form)

1. Your reference

Jg-2320

2. Patent application number

(The Patent Office will fill in this part)

0315300.4

3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)

The Way To Win Limited,
Wilson's Corner,
1st Floor,
1-5 Ingrave Road,
Brentwood,
Essex CM15 8AP
United Kingdom

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

United Kingdom

7628357003

4. Title of the invention

A SEAT

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

Graham Jones & Company,
77 Beaconsfield Road,
Blackheath,
London,
SE3 7LG

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

2097001 ✓

6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number

Country

Priority application number
(if you know it)

Date of filing
(day / month / year)

7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application

Number of earlier application

Date of filing
(day / month / year)

8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if:

Yes

- a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or
- b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or
- c) any named applicant is a corporate body.

See note (d)

Patents Form 1/77

9. Enter the number of sheets for any of the following items you are filing with this form.
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Continuation sheets of this form

Description

8 ✓

Claim(s)

Abstract

Drawing(s)

2 + 2

fm ✓

10. If you are also filing any of the following, state how many against each item.

Priority documents

Translations of priority documents

Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (Patents Form 7/77)

2 ✓

Request for preliminary examination and search (Patents Form 9/77)

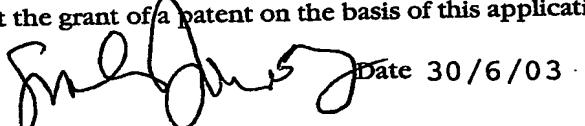
Request for substantive examination (Patents Form 10/77)

Any other documents
(please specify)

11.

I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature



Date 30/6/03

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

Mr. G.H. Jones

020 8858 4039

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Notes

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A SEAT

This invention relates to a seat.

There are many different types of seats comprising a seat portion and a backrest portion. The seats are often such that the seat portion is often not comfortable to sit on and does not give adequate support to the posterior of a person sitting on the seat portion. The seat portion, may, for example, restrict the positioning of the person's pelvic girdle and it may apply undue pressure to the person's ischial tuberosities, in addition to restricting local blood flow and pinching local nerves in the region of the person's posterior.

It is an aim of the present invention to reduce the above mentioned problem.

Accordingly, in one non-limiting embodiment, the present invention provides a seat comprising a seat portion and a backrest portion, the seat portion comprising a main portion and an insert portion, the insert portion being such that it fits into a complementarily shaped recess in the main portion, the insert portion comprising a pair of pads which are positioned so as to be underneath the cheeks of the posterior of a person sitting on the insert portion, the insert portion comprising a pair of legs which are

positioned so as to be underneath the thighs of the person sitting on the seat portion, and the insert portion being such that it is able to move in the main portion and thus adjust to seating requirements of the person sitting on the seat.

The seat portion may give a good degree of comfort to a person sitting on the seat, irrespective of the seat being used at different times by different persons of different heights and weight.

The seat portion may be one in which the pads and the legs have curved faces which engage complementarily curved faces in the recess, thereby to facilitate the movement of the seat portion in the main portion. The movement with the complementarily curved faces can be a sliding/tilting movement.

Preferably, the insert portion is softer than the main portion. With such an arrangement, the insert portion may be made of a foam material of a first density, the main portion may be made of a foam material of a second density, and the first density is a lighter density than the second density.

Preferably, the insert portion does not have any voids of the type used to increase flexibility and/or save material.

The seat portion may include a heating element.

The backrest portion may comprise a frame, a support portion and spring means, the spring means being such as to spring mount the support portion within the frame whereby a person sitting on the seat and resting their back on the support portion is able to cause the support portion to adjust its position with respect to the frame and thereby to provide optimum lumber support for the back of the person irrespective of the height and weight of the person.

Preferably, the support portion is such that it increases in thickness in a direction towards the seat portion.

The support portion will usually be a rectilinear support portion. The rectilinear support portion is preferably rectangular in shape with the longest sides of the rectangle extending towards the seat portion.

The backrest portion may be one in which the spring means is a plurality of spring elements. Preferably, the spring elements are resilient straps or resilient cords.

The frame will usually be a peripheral frame which extends around the periphery of the backrest portion.

The backrest portion may include a headrest portion.

The seat may be any suitable and appropriate seat. Thus, for example, the seat may be a vehicle seat for a vehicle, an aircraft seat for an aircraft, a boat seat for a boat, a domestic seat for domestic use, an office seat for office use, or an industrial seat for use in industrial premises.

Where the seat is a vehicle seat for a vehicle, then the vehicle may be any suitable and appropriate vehicle including a car, van, bus, coach or lorry. Where the seat is a seat for a boat, then the seat may be especially advantageous for ferries where passengers are generally required to sit together in their seats for the duration of their journey. Where the seat is a domestic seat, then the domestic seat may be a chair, armchair or settee.

An embodiment of the invention will now be described solely by way of example and with reference to the accompanying drawings in which;

Figure 1 shows a seat comprising a seat portion and a backrest portion, the backrest portion being partially cut away; and

Figure 2 is an exploded perspective view of inner components of the seat portion shown in Figure 1.

Referring to the drawings, there is shown a seat 2 comprising a seat portion 4 and a backrest portion

6. The backrest portion 6 comprises a frame 8, a

support portion 10 and spring means 12. The spring means 12 is such as to spring mount the support portion 10 within the frame 8 whereby a person (not shown) sitting on the seat 2 and resting their back on the support portion 10 is able to cause the support portion 10 to adjust its position with respect to the frame 8 and thereby to provide optimum lumber support for the back of the person irrespective of the height and weight of the person.

The support portion 10 is such that it increases in thickness in a direction towards the seat portion. As can be seen from the drawing, the increase in the thickness is relatively small at a top part 14 of the support portion 10. The increase in thickness becomes more substantial towards a bottom part 16 of the support portion 10. The increase in thickness is achieved by having a contoured front face of the backrest portion 6 and a substantially flat rear face. The support portion 10 is rectangular in shape with the longest sides 18 of the rectangle extending towards the seat portion 4.

The spring means 12 is a plurality of spring elements 20. Any suitable and appropriate spring elements 20 may be employed so that, for example, the spring elements 20 may be resilient straps or resilient cords.

The frame 8 is a peripheral frame which extends around the periphery of the backrest portion 6. The seat 2 includes a headrest portion 22.

The seat 2 shown in the drawing is a vehicle seat for use in a vehicle in the form of a car.

The seat portion 4 can be of any suitable and appropriate shape and construction. The backrest portion 6 may be adjusted with respect to the seat portion 10 by an adjustor knob 24. If desired, the seat portion may be of a construction which is described and claimed in our co-pending patent application filed herewith and entitled A SEAT.

The seat 2 is provided with upholstery 26 as shown. This upholstery will usually be foam material covered by an appropriate fabric. Any suitable and appropriate type of upholstery 26 can be employed. The upholstery 26 used in the backrest portion 6 will usually directly engage the adjacent front face of the support portion 10. The support portion 10 will usually be made of a rigid material such for example as a moulded plastics material.

As shown in Figure 2, the seat portion 4 comprises a main portion 28 and an insert portion 30. The insert portion 30 is such that it fits into a complementarily shaped recess 32 in the main portion 28.

The insert portion 30 comprises a pair of pads 34 which are positioned so as to be underneath the cheeks of the posterior of the person sitting on the seat portion 4. The insert portion 30 also comprises a pair of legs 36 which are positioned so as to be underneath the sides of the person sitting on the seat portion 4.

The insert portion 30 is such that it is able to move in the main portion 28 and thus adjust to the requirements of the person sitting on the seat portion 4. More specifically, the pads 34 have curved faces 38, and the legs 36 have curved faces 40. The curved faces 38 engage complementarily curved faces 42 in the recess 32. Similarly, the curved faces 40 engage complementarily shaped curved faces 44 in the recess 32. The insert portion 30 is thus able to move in the main portion 28 with a sliding/tilting action.

The insert portion 30 is made of a foam material of a first density. The main portion 28 is made of a foam material of a second density. The density of the foam material of the insert portion 30 is lighter than the density of the foam material of the main portion 28 so that the insert portion 28 is softer than the main portion 30. The insert portion 28 does not have any voids of the type used in foam material to

increase flexibility and/or save on foam material. Thus, although the insert portion is soft, it provides a good support base for the posterior of the person sitting on the seat portion 4.

The main portion 28 and the insert portion 30 are covered by the upholstery 26 as shown in Figure 1. Prior to covering with the upholstery 36, a heating element can be laid on top of the insert portion 30 if it is desired to provide the seat 2 with a heated facility for the seat portion 4.

It is to be appreciated that the embodiment of the invention described above with reference to the accompanying drawings has been given by way of example only and that modifications may be effected. Thus, for example, the seat 2 shown in the drawings is a car seat but it may alternatively be a seat for another type of vehicle, an aircraft seat, a domestic seat, or a seat for any other suitable and appropriate purpose. The backrest portion 6 may be of a shape other than that shown.

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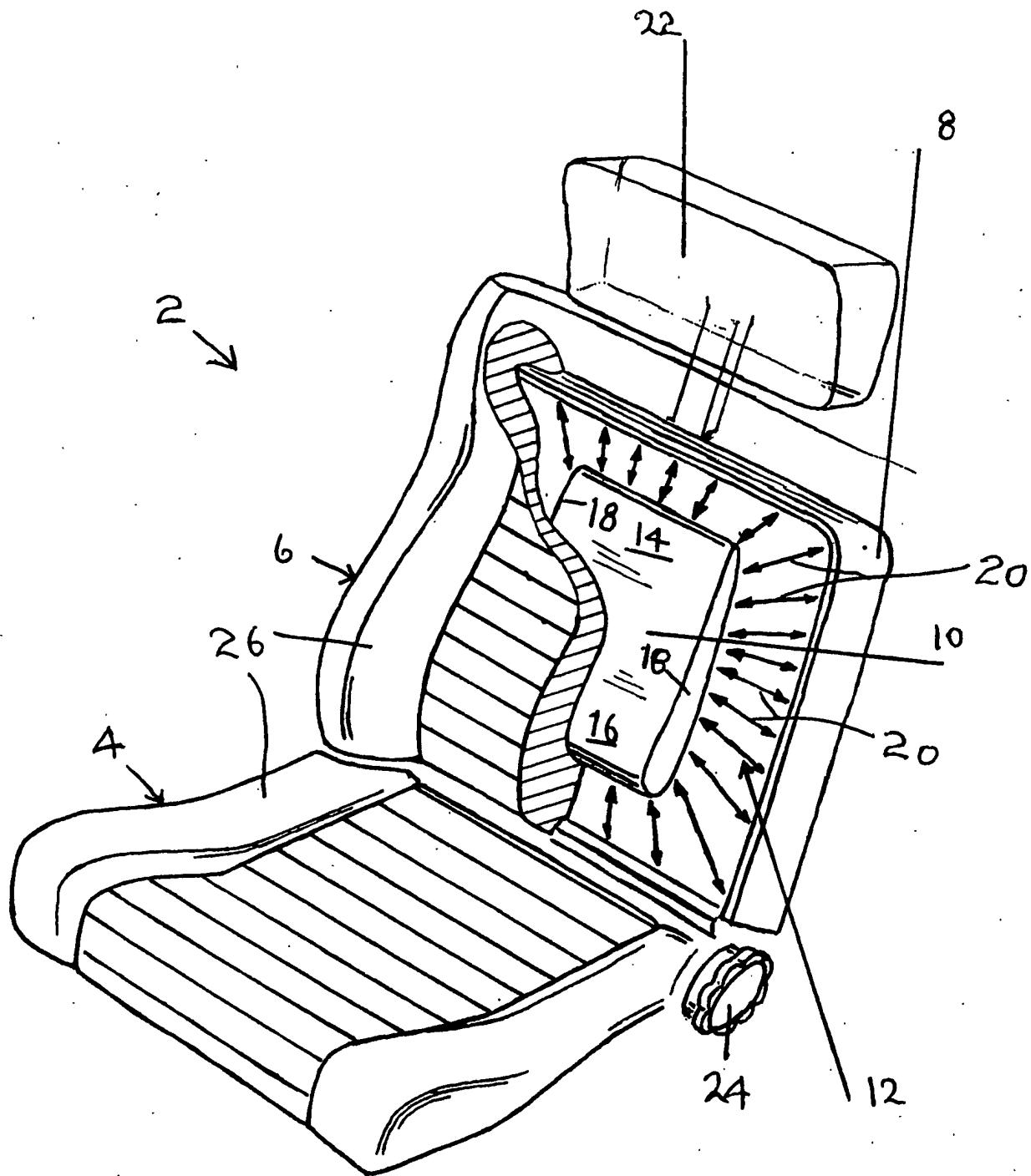


FIG 1

2/2

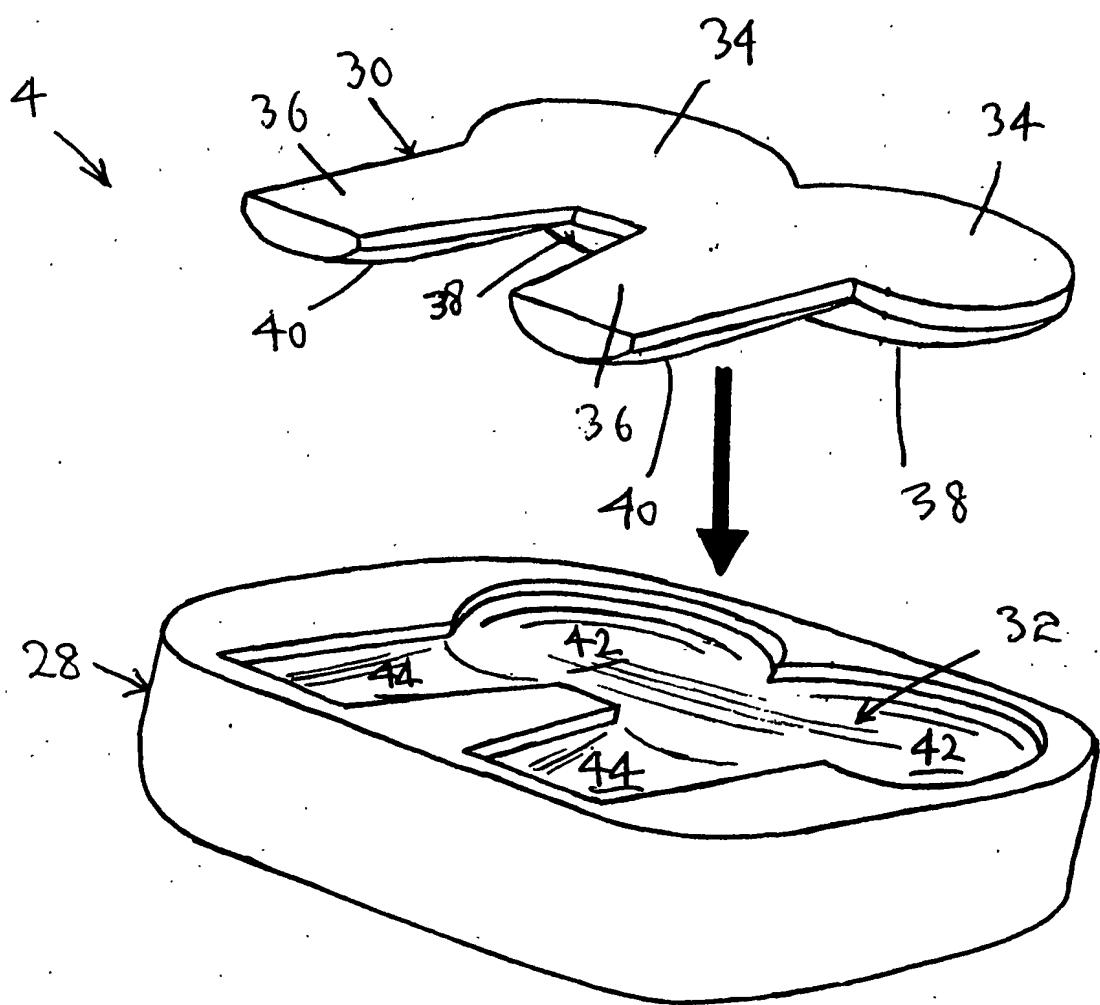


FIG 2

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